



Directorate of  
Intelligence

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# Terrorism Review

25 February 1988

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25 February 1988

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**Terrorism Review** b3

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*This review is published biweekly by the Directorate of Intelligence. Other elements of the CIA as well as other agencies of the US Intelligence Community are encouraged to submit articles for publication. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Executive Editor [REDACTED]* b3

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## Terrorism Review <sup>b3</sup>

25 February 1988

Focus

### International Terrorism in 1987: What Do the Numbers Say? <sup>b3</sup>

<sup>b1, b3</sup>  
Fewer dramatic terrorist attacks occurred in 1987 compared with the two previous years, but the number of terrorist incidents increased slightly. The level of international terrorist activity in 1987 rose by more than 7 percent over the previous year, reaching 832 incidents compared with 774 for 1986. [REDACTED]

<sup>b3</sup>  
Terrorist incidents in 1987 resulted in 612 persons killed and 2,293 wounded, including casualties to terrorists themselves. Again, this increase over the figures for 1986—604 and 1,717 respectively—can be explained by the explosion of terrorism in Pakistan. Without the statistics for Pakistan, the rest of the world shows a drop of more than 100 killed and 200 wounded from the 1986 figures.

The United States remained a major target for international terrorists, although the total number of anti-US incidents declined by 26 percent to 151 in 1987. The decrease does not reflect any particular trend but is consistent with the numerical decline in other categories elsewhere. US casualties also dropped by about 50 percent. The greatest number of US casualties took place in Latin America, where they declined slightly. More US citizens were killed or wounded in Asia, and the casualty figures for the Middle East and Western Europe remained at virtually the same percentages as in 1986. The United States undoubtedly will remain a prime target, and we believe that the incidence of anti-US attacks will increase as terrorist groups adjust to recently developed countermeasures. <sup>b3</sup>

Terrorist attacks followed the same general patterns as in preceding years. Bombings remained the means preferred over all others, followed by arson and armed attacks. More than half the kidnappings occurred in the Middle East. Although few in number, their impact outweighed that of most other terrorist events of the year. Iranian-inspired terrorists will probably continue to view kidnappings and the subsequent holding of hostages as effective means of achieving their objectives as long as Western governments are willing to make concessions. A Korean diplomat, a German businessman, and two French hostages were released in 1987, but more were kidnapped. Four Americans, an Indian professor, two Germans, and British hostage negotiator Terry Waite were seized last year. <sup>b3</sup>

[REDACTED] <sup>b1, b3</sup>  
Although this attack fell outside our definition of terrorism because the target was

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**Table 1**  
**International Terrorist Incidents**  
**Against US Targets in 1987**  
**by Type of Event and Region**

	Africa	Asia	Latin America	Middle East	Western Europe	Total
Total	5	25	71	14	36	151
Armed attack/ assaults	1	8	9	2	8	28
Arson			7	3	2	12
Barriade, no hostage					1	1
Bombing	2	14	50	7	24	97
Kidnaping	2		1	2		5
Nonair hijacking		1				1
Other			1			1
Sabotage/ vandalism		1	3		1	5
Theft		1				1

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military, it was conducted by a dangerous terrorist group, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, and is an interesting example of terrorists' ability to innovate.

State support for international terrorism persisted. Countries that sponsor terrorism try to hide their involvement through use of proxies and other means. When such attacks have been identified by perpetrators, however, the number of state-sponsored international terrorist incidents increased 60 percent over 1986, to 188 attacks in 1987. The most significant change occurred in Pakistan, where the level of international terrorist attacks sponsored by Afghanistan rose from 29 in 1986 to 128 in 1987—an increase of 340 percent. Another important increase was in Iranian-sponsored terrorism: 44 incidents, representing a 30-percent increase over 1986. Conversely, international terrorism sponsored by the two countries most subjected to international pressure, Libya and Syria, declined significantly: Libyan-sponsored terrorism dropped from 19 attacks in 1986 to only six in 1987, and we recorded only two for Syria in 1987.

#### **Middle East**

The year was marked by the absence of major terrorist spectaculars by Middle Eastern groups, for several reasons:

- Physical security at potential official and nonofficial targets in Europe and the Middle East helped frustrate terrorist planning.
- Enhanced counterterrorist cooperation between Western nations and others afflicted by the problem kept terrorists off balance.

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- Well-publicized revelations of Syrian complicity in sponsoring terrorism, combined with its badly deteriorating economy, compelled Damascus to diminish its support for international terrorist groups.
- Although Libya was active in international terrorism during the year, it continued to exercise the caution it demonstrated in 1986 following the US air raids and other US and European sanctions.
- Finally, events in Lebanon—such as the camp wars and the Syrian military move into Beirut early in the year—compelled the attention of international terrorist groups operating in and out of Lebanon and inhibited their ability to carry out attacks overseas.

Middle Eastern origin terrorism, nevertheless, continues to account for about half of all terrorist incidents worldwide. In 1987 there were 371 incidents in the region, with 43 attacks of Middle Eastern origin in Western Europe. In 1987 we detected a drop in international terrorism overseas by radical Palestinian groups, but this decrease was offset by a rise in attacks against Israeli targets in Israel and the occupied territories.

Table 2  
Total Casualties in International Terrorist  
Incidents in 1987 by Region

	Wounded	Dead
Total	2,293	612
Africa	136	49
Asia	1,231	247
Eastern Europe	4	3
Latin America	69	11
Middle East	722	276
Western Europe	131	26

We do not believe that Palestinian radicals have forsaken terrorism as a means of achieving their objectives. Several radical Palestinian groups already may be priming themselves for a resurgence of terrorist activity against Israeli, moderate Arab, and US targets both within and beyond the Middle East. Given the extent of restlessness among young Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, combined with the influence of Islamic fundamentalism, we are concerned new leadership and groupings might emerge from the turmoil to bring about a new wave of terrorism. Furthermore, any new international attempt to reach a peace agreement in the region could also result in increased terrorism; moderate Arab leaders willing to try to negotiate or compromise with Israel will probably become routine targets for terrorist assassination.

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#### Asia

Asia can no longer be considered a region relatively free from the dangers of international terrorism. The number of international incidents in Asia in 1987 grew by 80 percent over 1986, to a total of 173. Pakistan suffered the most dramatic increase; if incidents in Pakistan were excluded, however, the figures for the rest of Asia would remain virtually the same for 1986 and 1987. (b3)

**Table 3**  
**International Terrorist Incidents in 1987**  
**by Type of Event and Region**

	Africa	Asia	Eastern Europe	Latin America	Middle East	Western Europe	Total
Total	29	173	1	108	371	150	832
Armed attack/assaults	9	18		14	67	33	141
Arson	1	1		11	122	15	150
Barricade						4	4
Bombing	10	148		69	151	95	473
Kidnaping	8	3	1	10	30	1	53
Nonair hijacking		1			1		2
Other				1			1
Sabotage/vandalism		1		3		2	6
Terrorist skyjack	1						1
Theft		1					1

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In a world accustomed to terrorist atrocities in the Middle East and Europe, only a major incident in the past—like the 1983 Rangoon bombing by North Korean agents or the 1985 downing of the Air India airliner by radical Sikhs—attracted worldwide attention. In 1988, several developments already pose serious problems for the international community. In addition to terrorism in Pakistan, increased threats will arise from insurgencies in the Philippines, India, and Sri Lanka; the reemergence of the Japanese Red Army (JRA); terrorist activities of North Korean Government agents; and the tempting target presented by the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul. (b3)

#### Western Europe

Terrorists in Western Europe, both domestic and Middle Eastern, staged 151 international terrorist attacks in 1987—a slight drop from 1986. Twenty-four percent were staged against US interests, mostly bombings of US-owned or US-associated facilities. US casualty figures in Western Europe were low: one person killed and 36 wounded. Some indigenous groups, such as Action Directe in France, were decimated by arrests; others, such as West Germany's Red Army Faction, were largely inactive. Separatist terrorism remained by far the most persistent and dangerous, and we fear that this trend will continue, given the intensity of emotions and the degree of at least some community support for Basques, Kurds, and Irish separatism. (b3)

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The reasons for the overall decline in Western Europe, which has persisted for two years, are similar to those attributed earlier to the lull in major Middle Eastern attacks: caution exercised by state sponsors of terrorism, leading to a major decrease in Middle Eastern-origin terrorism; enhanced physical security; and successes by law enforcement and security agencies, owing largely to the increased level of cooperation among counterterrorist officials in Western Europe. We believe most countries in the region no longer look upon terrorism as an isolated phenomenon to be handled separately by each state and independently of other aspects of foreign policy. Most governments now believe that it is a shared problem and that "one democracy's terrorist is another democracy's terrorist." b3

#### Latin America

The incidence of international terrorism in Latin America dropped by 32 percent in 1987, down from 159 incidents in 1986 to 108 in 1987. As in the past two years, Peru, Colombia, and Chile suffered the greatest number of international terrorist attacks, accounting for nearly three quarters of the attacks in Latin America. The year also saw an increase in attacks in the Dominican Republic, although they were minor. Attacks in El Salvador and Honduras were once again inconsequential, and more occurred in Guatemala. b3

The United States remained a major target. Of the 108 incidents, 71 were directed against US interests, a figure that represented 47 percent of all anti-US attacks throughout the world. Although the attacks resulted in substantial property damage, they caused no deaths of US citizens and only seven wounded. Although most attacks were against established regimes, the United States was also a target because of its substantial economic presence and political influence in Latin America and its symbolic position as the engine of capitalism. b3

#### Sub-Saharan Africa

Consistent with previous years, international terrorist incidents in Sub-Saharan Africa remained few and of little significance. We detected no significant trend in the slight increase in the number of such attacks. Attacks occurred in 14 countries, and only Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Mozambique saw three or more attacks. Once again, almost all attacks were committed within the framework of local insurgencies, in which foreigners were sometimes deliberate targets but mostly inadvertent victims or targets of opportunity. b3

Only five terrorist attacks were aimed at US interests, resulting in two deaths and one injury, and of these only one—a Libyan-sponsored bombing in Chad in October—appeared to be deliberate. Four US citizens were kidnaped in two separate incidents in Mozambique and Sudan, but they were released unharmed within a few months. One US tourist was wounded in a landmine explosion along the South African border. b3

The number of kidnappings was unusually high in comparison with other regions. Seven different insurgent groups kidnaped foreigners to gain publicity or extract ransom for their cause. More than 100 foreigners of 11 nationalities were abducted during the year; most, however, were later released. b3

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## Highlights (U)

### Alert Items

#### El Salvador

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#### Leftists Intensify Targeting of US Personnel

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[REDACTED]

#### Italy

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[REDACTED]

### Significant Developments

#### Western Europe

##### Cyprus

#### PLO Officials Killed in Cyprus

For the first time since July 1987, Palestinians in Europe were victims of a terrorist attack. On 14 February in Limassol, Cyprus, a powerful car bomb killed three PLO officials. One day later a bomb exploded aboard the Greek ship Sol Phryne, which was chartered to carry Palestinian deportees, sympathizers, and journalists from Cyprus to Israel. The PLO quickly blamed the Israeli Mossad for both operations and vowed to retaliate. In light of the two attacks, the PLO claimed it would reconsider its commitment to the November 1985 Cairo

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<sup>b2</sup>  
Declaration banning terrorism outside Israel and the occupied territories; however, [REDACTED] the threat has been withdrawn. Israeli authorities denied the PLO allegations and blamed feuding PLO factions for the car bomb attack. [REDACTED]

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France

#### Action Directe Hunger Strike

Imprisoned Action Directe (AD) leaders—Jean-Marc Rouillan, Nathalie Menigon, Joelle Aubron, and Georges Cipriani—are near death. The four have been on a hunger strike since 1 December, demanding to be treated as political prisoners and to be removed from isolation. A special terrorism tribunal passed sentence on the four in mid-February. The rest of the 22 AD members on trial received penalties ranging from an 18-month suspended sentence for journalists Paula Jacques and Dan Franck, who harbored a fugitive, to eight years for Hellette Besse, who supplied false documents. The four leaders are supposed to go on trial again in March for assassination, bombing, and armed robbery. [REDACTED]

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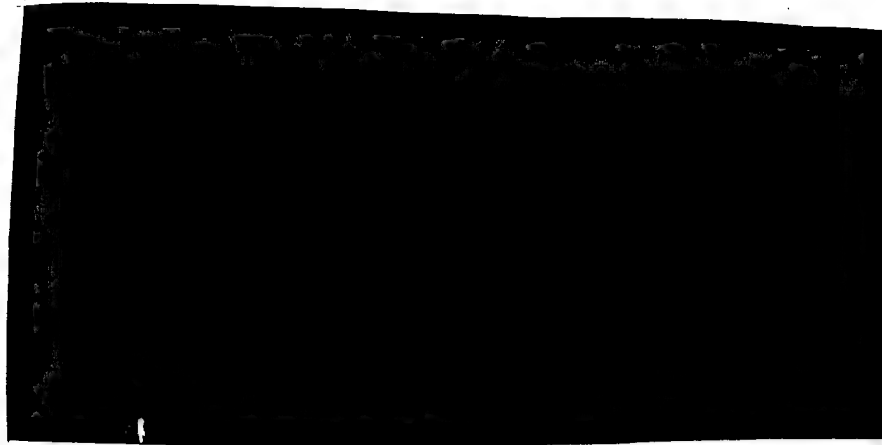
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Should one or more of the prisoners die, the government anticipates more violent sympathetic actions—such as bombings and arson—than those seen to date. AD sympathizers in West Germany have carried out low-key actions in Frankfurt and Hamburg, and six jailed RAF members went on short hunger strikes to show solidarity with the French terrorists. Lack of a significant response would probably cause the groups—AD, the Communist Combatant Cells in Belgium, and the Red Army Faction in West Germany—to lose credibility with the support network of radical leftists and other terrorists. [REDACTED]

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Ireland

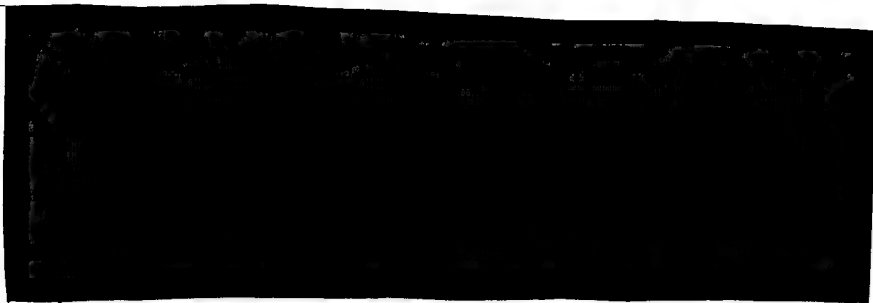
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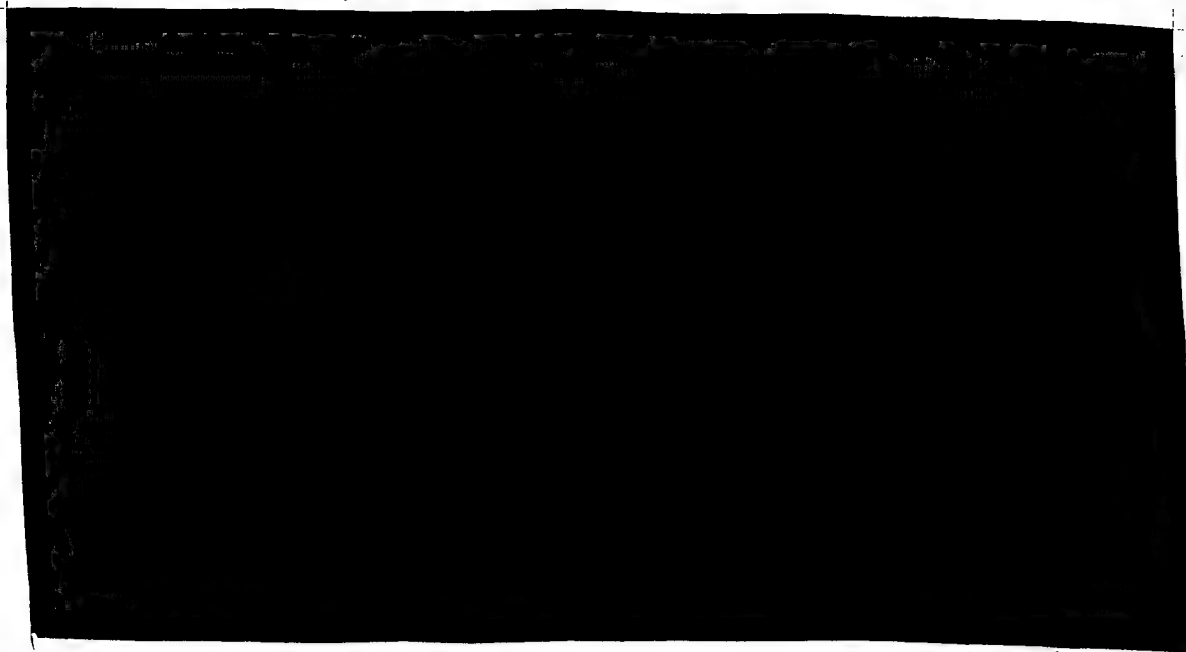
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Middle East

Lebanon

#### Three New Hostages

Hizballah is believed to be behind the kidnaping on 17 February of US Marine Lieutenant Colonel Higgins in southern Lebanon. The kidnaping, claimed by the Islamic Revolutionary Brigades and the Organization of the Oppressed on Earth, was justified as the seizing of a US spy. The Shia Amal militia is searching the area in which the incident occurred in an effort to free Higgins. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ b3

Masked gunmen kidnaped two United Nations Refugee Welfare Agency (UNRWA) employees—Jan Stening, a Swede, and Norwegian William Joergensen—on 5 February in Sidon, Lebanon. Several groups are suspected, although

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there has been no claim of responsibility. [REDACTED] UNRWA recently had fired six Palestinian employees after making accusations, based on an investigation by Stening, that they had stolen supplies. UNRWA later publicly claimed it did not fire any workers, however. [REDACTED] b3

We have been unable to confirm the identities of the kidnapers. It is possible that disgruntled Palestinian employees of UNRWA abducted the two Scandinavians and may be receiving protection from sympathizers in the Sidon area. An UNRWA spokesman declared publicly that it was an internal Palestinian affair, but an anonymous note received in Beirut several days after the abduction claimed the UNRWA employees were spies who would be interrogated and set free only if found innocent. The tactic of declaring hostages spies previously had been used by radical Shia to "legitimize" kidnappings. [REDACTED] b3

#### Palestinians

#### Terrorists' Views on West Bank Situation

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Resumption of an active peace process probably would lead to an upsurge in Palestinian terrorism, including attacks outside the Middle East. Opposition to political resolution of the Arab-Israeli dispute—and specifically to the Amman accords—was a major cause of the unprecedented number of Palestinian terrorist incidents in 1985. The loss of momentum in the peace process almost certainly has been a major factor in the lull in Palestinian attacks outside the Middle East since late 1986. State sponsors of radical Palestinian factions—including Libya and Syria—could be expected to encourage attacks against any Arab parties entering into negotiations with Israel. [REDACTED] b3

#### Latin America

#### El Salvador

#### FMLN Attacks on Embassy Vehicles

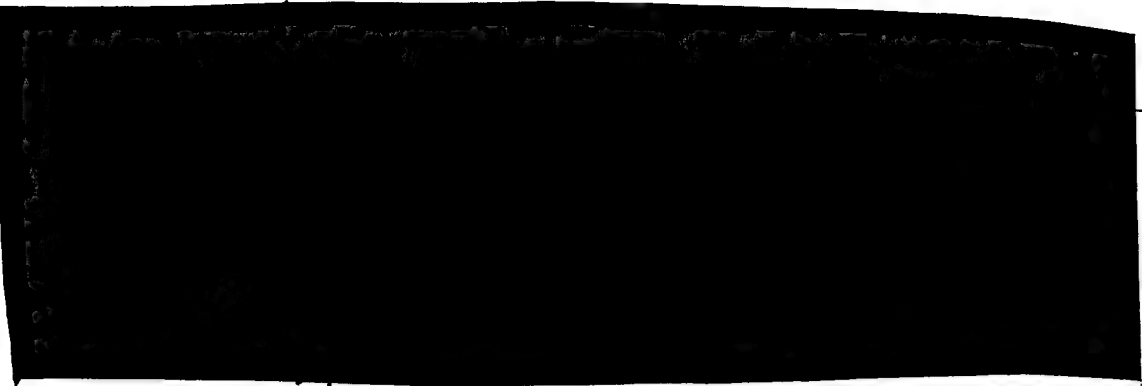
Since November 1987, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) has increased terrorist tactics to intimidate Salvadorans working for the US Embassy. A driver assigned to the US defense attache office was abducted from a

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service station and shot on 12 November. A month after the assassination, [REDACTED] b3  
[REDACTED] an anonymous telephone threat that more Salvadoran employees would be killed in the same manner. On 14 January, FMLN members hijacked the vehicle of a Salvadoran employee of USAID while he was stopped at a traffic light in San Salvador. Later the same day, two terrorists in the stolen vehicle fired automatic weapons at a patrol car belonging to the US Embassy's contract guard company. On 12 February, one of two FMLN members in a stolen vehicle fired a revolver at a patrol car belonging to the US Embassy's contract guard company. b3

South/East Asia



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# Iranian Support for Terrorism in 1987

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Iran in 1987 increased its involvement in international terrorism. Beginning in early January, Tehran or its surrogates:

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- Were accused by Paris of instigating the 1986 bombing campaign and of giving support to a cell of North African terrorists arrested in March.
- Allegedly ordered the kidnaping in Lebanon of US journalist Charles Glass.
- Benefited from the release of foreign hostages held in Lebanon by Hizballah, the fast-growing Iranian-backed Shia fundamentalist movement in Lebanon.

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- Murdered Iranian defectors and dissidents in West Germany, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and Turkey.

Iranian leaders view terrorism as an important instrument of foreign policy, which in 1987 they were willing to use to advance national goals and to export the regime's Islamic revolutionary ideals. They used it selectively and skillfully in coordination with conventional diplomacy and military tactics. Most Iranian leaders probably agree terrorism is an acceptable policy option, although they may differ on the appropriateness or timeliness of a particular act of terrorism.

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Iran's primary targets were the moderate Arab regimes, the West, and Iranian dissidents. Tehran used terrorism to try to intimidate Persian Gulf rulers into ending their aid to Baghdad, to drive US and French influence from the Middle East, and to eliminate opponents of the regime. In 1987 Tehran used the threat of terrorism, along with attacks on Gulf shipping, to discourage Kuwait and the other moderate Arab Gulf states from supporting the US reflagging effort.

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## Targeting the Gulf States

Tehran continued its policy of recruiting Shias from the Persian Gulf states.

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Although some acts of terrorism by Shias in the Gulf may have been conducted without Tehran's explicit authorization, Tehran encourages such acts in principle and can call on these extremists to mount terrorist operations. Iranian-backed factions include the Supreme Assembly for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, the Organization of the Islamic Revolution in the Arabian Peninsula, the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain, and the Islamic Call (Dawa) Party, which has branches in Bahrain, Kuwait, and Lebanon.

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Iran's campaign against the Persian Gulf states began in June 1986 when Kuwaiti Shias were involved in the bombing of several oil installations in Kuwait. In January 1987, Shia terrorists carried out a series of bombings at Kuwaiti oil installations apparently intended to force cancellation or postponement of the Organization of Islamic States summit conference and to end Kuwaiti support for Iraq. The attacks were claimed in the name of the Prophet Muhammad's Forces in Kuwait—Revolutionary Organization, a previously unknown group, which probably was simply a covername used by Shia extremists. More bombings—probably intended to intimidate Kuwait from supporting the US reflagging effort—occurred in April and May 1987. In July, two Kuwaiti brothers blew themselves up while attempting to place a bomb in front of a commercial building housing the Air France ticket office. The brothers told authorities in late 1986 they had been abducted by Iran, but they had received sabotage training there. In September, arsonists set a fire at the science facility at Kuwait University. Over the next two months bombs exploded

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in front of the Pan American ticket office, the Ministry of the Interior, and the office of a US-owned life insurance company.

The prospect of terrorism against Saudi Arabia increased significantly in 1987 following the Iranian-inspired clashes between Iranian pilgrims and Saudi security forces during the pilgrimage to Mecca. Iranian leaders publicly committed Iran to retaliation for the deaths of the Iranian pilgrims, to the overthrow of the ruling family, and to the end of Saudi dominance over the Islamic Holy Places in Arabia. Pro-Iranian extremists may have been responsible for the bombing of a Saudi bank in Paris in September.

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Bahrain was also the target of a terrorist plot.

#### Iran in Lebanon: Hizballah and the Hostages

Lebanon has been the scene of most terrorism perpetrated by groups supported by Iran. In 1987, Tehran continued to provide significant support to the extremist Shia Hizballah movement responsible for the kidnaping and detention of foreign hostages and has conducted terrorist attacks against Western interests, particularly the United States and France. Hizballah is not completely controlled by Iran, but Tehran has substantial influence over the group's activities and provides financial assistance as well as weapons and training:

- Following the arrest in mid-January 1987 of a terrorist important to Hizballah, two German nationals were abducted in Beirut. The terrorist, Muhammad Hammadi, who was arrested at Frankfurt Airport trying to smuggle liquid explosives into the country, had been one of the hijackers of TWA Flight 847 in June 1985.

- On 13 January, French journalist Roger Auque was abducted in Beirut. No group claimed his kidnaping. Auque was released, allegedly by the Revolutionary Justice Organization, in November.

- On 20 January, Church of England envoy Terry Waite was kidnaped in Beirut while on a mission to contact the terrorists holding several US hostages. No group has claimed his abduction.

- On 24 January, gunmen seized four professors, including three Americans, from the Beirut University College (BUC). A previously unknown group called the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine (IJLP) claimed the kidnappings. The IJLP said in a communique released shortly after the abductions that it would murder all four hostages within a week if several hundred Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli jails were not freed and if Muhammad Hammadi were not released.

- Shia terrorists in Lebanon held five other US hostages at yearend, including Terry Anderson and David Sutherland. On Christmas Day 1987, a tape was released showing Anderson; in it he linked the hostages' fate to that of 17 Shia terrorists held in Kuwait.

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During the next few months, the press and sources of varying reliability reported threats to the hostages as well as promises of their imminent release. Press reports claimed that Terry Waite was accused of carrying a transmitter to his meeting with hostage holders, that he had been wounded in a shootout between rival hostage-taking factions, and that he was dead. Other reports alleged that all hostages had been moved to Tehran for trials on spy charges and that one of the BUC hostages was dying. At Christmas—following the releases in October and November of a South Korean, a German, and two French hostages—rumors circulated that Hizballah would release one or several hostages as a goodwill gesture. No hostages were released. The statements were probably intended by the hostage holders to increase pressure on the

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b3 hostages' governments in hopes of arranging a deal for ransom, which, according to press sources, had been paid in other hostage cases. [redacted] b3

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The degree of Iranian involvement in the hostage cases has varied widely. Iran probably was not involved in the kidnappings of the Western hostages taken in early 1987. [redacted]

[redacted] Glass, an American journalist, was in Lebanon allegedly to interview Lebanese leaders as well as individuals involved in the TWA Flight 847 hijacking. Tehran was, however, apparently instrumental in arranging the releases of the two French hostages and a German hostage in November. [redacted]

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#### In Search of America

Tehran almost certainly considers sabotage and terrorism as important options in its confrontation with the United States in the Persian Gulf. In the Iranian view, Tehran and its Shia allies forced the withdrawal of US military forces from Lebanon, humiliating the United States and bringing into question the idea that Washington could use its military forces to influence political developments in the Middle East. Many Iranian leaders cite the US withdrawal as proof that terrorism can break US resolve. In 1987, as the United States began to implement its decision to protect Kuwaiti oil tankers and increase its military presence in the Persian Gulf, Iranian leaders and media drew parallels between events in Lebanon in 1983 and 1984—the bombings of the US Embassy and the Marine barracks—and current developments in the Persian Gulf. Iranian leaders also warned they would attack any Gulf port that offered support to the US military. In August, following the killing of Iranian pilgrims in Mecca during an Iranian-inspired riot, Tehran linked the United States to Saudi repressive tactics. The accusation was probably intended in part to provide additional justification for attacks against the United States. No Iranian-backed terrorist attacks were launched against specific US targets in 1987. [redacted]

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#### Other Iranian Activities

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[redacted] Tehran, however, apparently was not linked to the hijacking in Switzerland of an Air Afrique airliner on 24 July. The hijacker was a Lebanese male who claimed to be a member of Hizballah. Among his confused set of demands was the release of Muhammad Hammadi and other Hizballah-linked terrorists in jail in France. One Frenchman was murdered before the hijacker was overpowered. [redacted] b3

#### Looking for Dissidents

Iran, like Libya, has made suppression of regime opponents at home and abroad a focus of its terrorist activities. Iranian agents have hunted down political opponents in Europe, the United States, the Middle East, and Asia. In January, a defector who had been chief pilot for Iranian Assembly head Rafsanjani was shot in West Germany. Other Iranian defectors, including prominent dissidents, were murdered in Austria, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and Turkey. All told, seven dissidents were murdered and at least two others were bombed or threatened in Europe last year. In July, pro-Khomeini terrorists—including members of the Revolutionary Guard, [redacted] attacked facilities used by members of the Iranian opposition Mujahedin el-Khalq in Karachi and in Quetta, Pakistan. Three persons were killed in these attacks and many were injured. [redacted] b3

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## The Response of South European Governments to Middle Eastern Terrorism: ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ b3

Government leaders of southern Europe have generally been reluctant to implement tough measures against Middle Eastern terrorism. Because of history, culture, and geography, they believe their countries have a special role as intermediaries between the Arab world and Europe. These regimes are also motivated by a sense of vulnerability because of their geographic proximity and the presence of sizable Middle Eastern populations within their borders, as well as by economic self-interest. Even though good relations with radical states have not always shielded them from international terrorism, most will remain cautious in their approach toward countries accused of aiding terrorism. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ b3

### Dimensions of the Threat

Middle Eastern violence has affected the southern-tier states to varying degrees. Several high-profile terrorist attacks have occurred in the southern tier in recent years, even though international terrorism in Western Europe—backed largely by Syria, Libya, and Iran—has been generally declining:

- The Abu Nidal organization (ANO) killed 13 persons at the Rome airport in 1985.
- Suspected ANO terrorists killed 22 worshipers in a synagogue in Istanbul in September 1986, and Libyan-sponsored terrorists were stopped before they could carry out an attack on the US officers club in Ankara in spring 1986.
- In Greece, a well-known Libyan dissident was assassinated in January 1987, and an Iraqi diplomat was wounded in an assassination attempt in December. A PLO official was murdered in October 1986, and in September 1985 an ANO grenade attack on a hotel in an Athens suburb injured 19 British tourists.
- Portugal has not experienced Middle Eastern-origin terrorism in recent years, but in 1983 a PLO leader was assassinated and Armenians assaulted the Turkish Embassy in Lisbon.

- Early in 1987 Milan airport officials arrested a Lebanese national attempting to smuggle plastic explosives into Italy, and in June a Libyan expatriate was shot and killed in Rome.
- A number of Libyan diplomats were expelled from Spain in 1986 for planning terrorist operations, and a self-proclaimed member of the Abu Musa group of Fatah dissidents was arrested for planning the bombing of an El Al aircraft at the Madrid airport in June 1986. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ b3

Threats of retaliation against governments refusing to free jailed Arab terrorists have generated fears of a new cycle of violence. Countries with sizable Middle Eastern communities consider themselves particularly vulnerable to terrorist attacks. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ b3

### Counterterrorism Capabilities

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#### National Interest and Policy Concerns

Southern-tier countries, sympathetic to Arab and Palestinian causes, aspire to a special relationship with the Arab nations, primarily to maintain economic links. Oil imports and arms sales are important factors in their policy calculations. In 1986, for example,

[REDACTED]

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The southern-tier governments have also been reluctant to take strong measures against states exporting terrorism, because of a desire to protect thousands of their citizens working in such countries as Libya. South European governments maintain cordial relations with Syria, Iran, and Libya, even though all three have been linked to terrorist incidents in southern-tier countries.

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[REDACTED]  
Similarly, southern-tier countries have dealt with Iranian terrorism gingerly.

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Governments accept the necessity to preempt or respond to terrorist moves, but the greater concern will remain indigenous sources of terrorism [REDACTED] that pose a more direct threat to stability. [REDACTED]

States in southern Europe have tolerated activity by foreign groups in part because of ideological sympathies with some movements. [REDACTED]

Even when individual terrorists are prosecuted and convicted, however, we believe governments will avoid implicating patron states. The historic ties and trade links that bind these countries to the Middle East argue against extreme measures that would endanger those interests. Economic linkages almost certainly will remain significant in shaping counterterrorist policy. [REDACTED]

In the near term, we believe governments will have little incentive to pursue new initiatives against international terrorism, partly because patron states have pulled back somewhat from their involvement in terrorism. Strained relations between Syria and radical Palestinian factions, for example, are partially responsible for a temporary reduction in the number of terrorist operations. We also expect government leaders will have public support in allowing narrowly perceived national interests to override counterterrorist considerations. Thus, leaders on occasion may not be above making deals with groups or sponsoring states if they can minimize the possibility of attacks or promote economic and political policy goals. [REDACTED]

This cautious approach has conformed with public attitudes. Most West Europeans favor diplomatic pressure or working cooperatively in the EC or the Council of Europe rather than more forceful actions, such as military retaliation. [REDACTED]

#### Outlook

Southern Europe probably will remain an area in which foreign terrorists can operate easily, despite efforts by some governments to strengthen border controls and to monitor foreign populations more closely. [REDACTED]

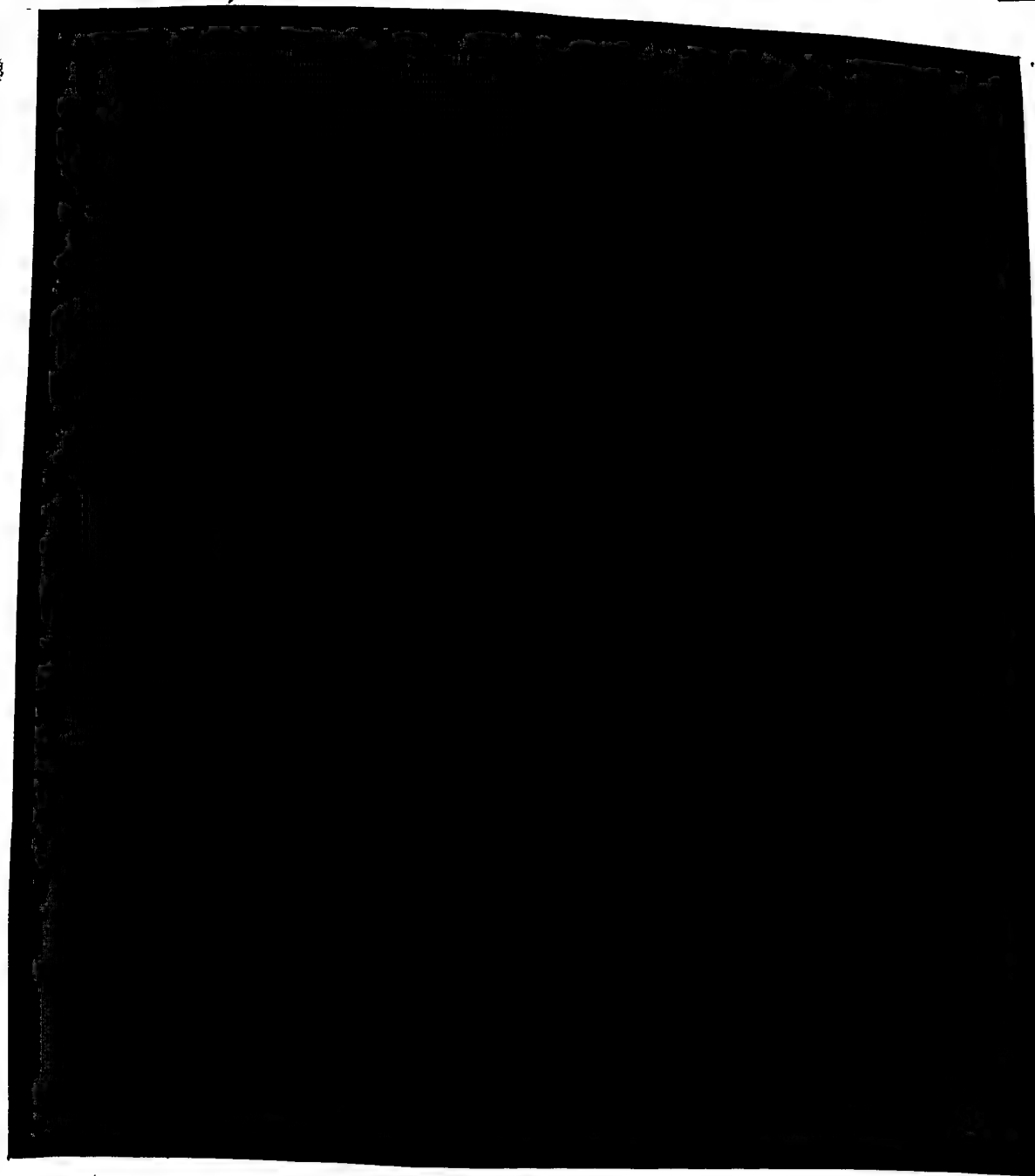
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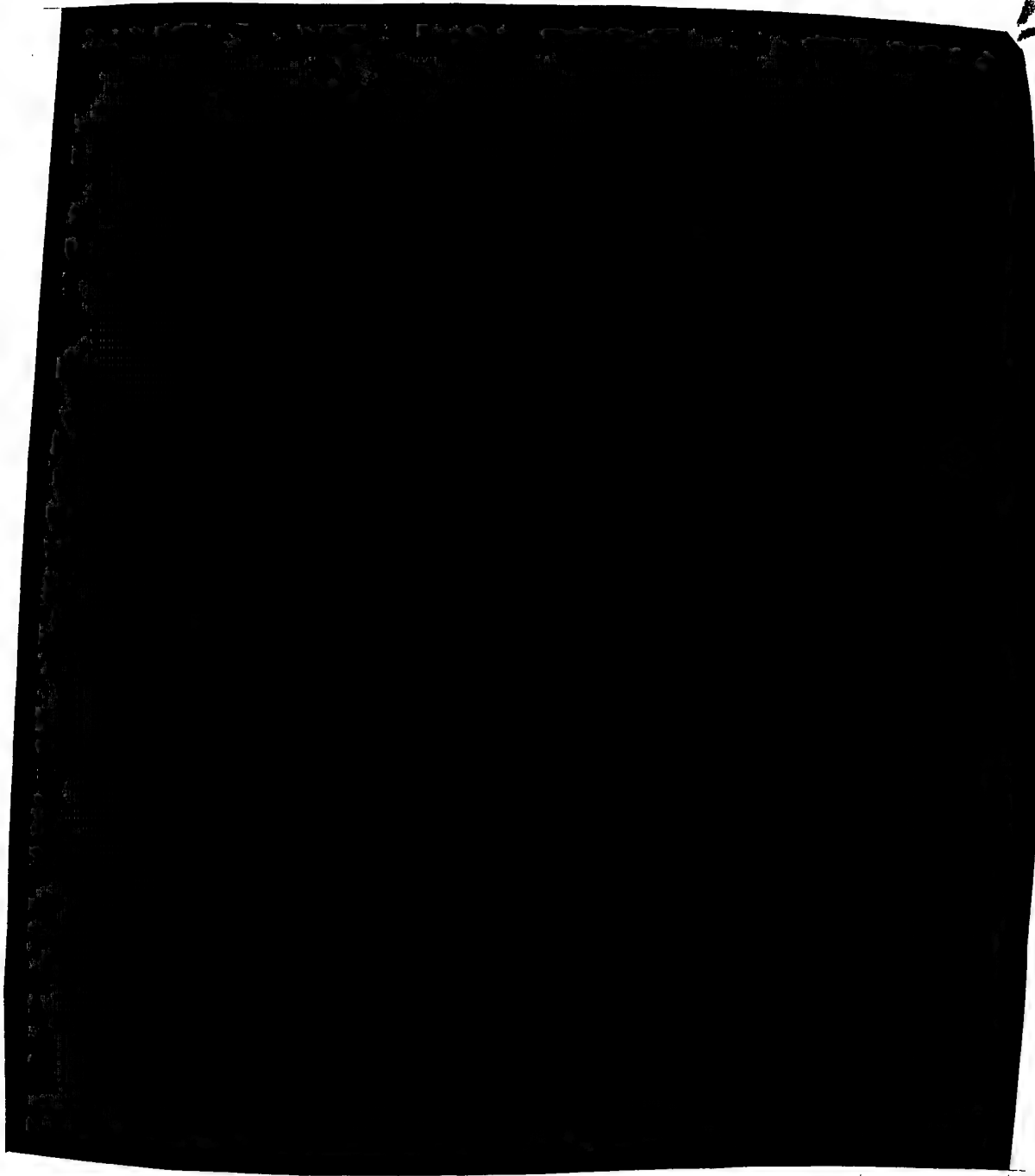


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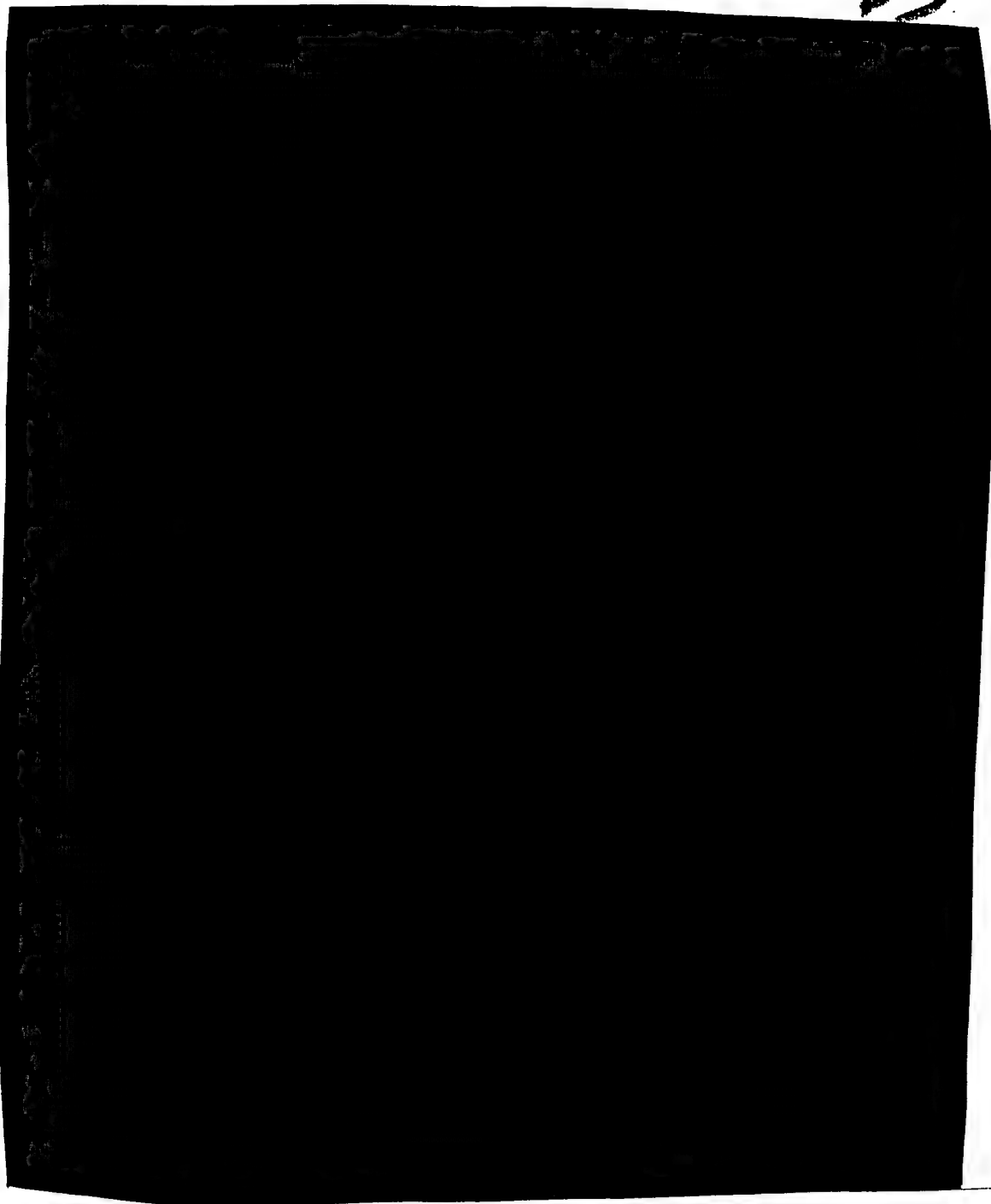


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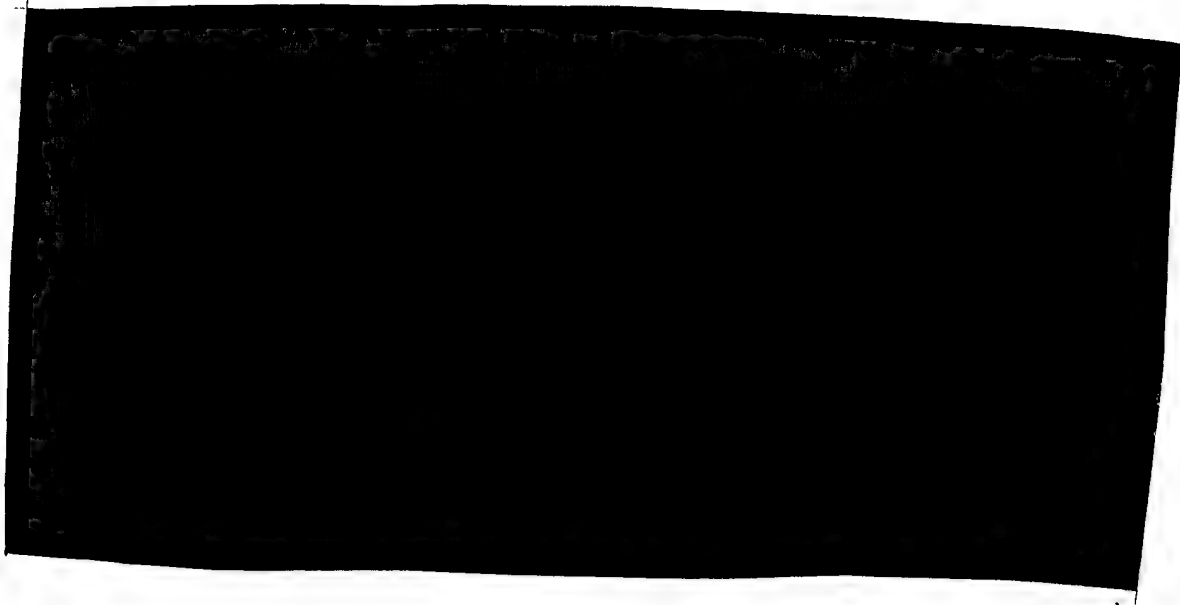
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**The Terrorism Diary for April** b3

*Below is a compendium of April dates of known or conceivable significance to terrorists around the world. Our inclusion of a date or event should not by itself be construed to suggest that we expect or anticipate a commemorative terrorist event.* b3

- 1 April**  
*Armenians.* The month of April is dedicated by Armenian groups to the memory of the massacre of Armenians by Turks during World War I.
- 1 April 1955**  
*Cyprus.* EOKA (National Organization of the Cypriot Struggle) Day. Beginning of guerrilla struggle for Greek Cypriot independence.
- 1 April 1970**  
*El Salvador.* Founding of Popular Liberation Forces (FPL).
- 1 April 1979**  
*Iran.* Islamic Republic Day. Commemorates Isfahan riots.
- 1 April 1980**  
*El Salvador.* US Cultural Center in San Salvador bombed and strafed by the Popular Liberation Forces (FPL).
- 1 April 1981**  
*El Salvador.* Rocket and gun attack on US Embassy by FPL.
- 2 April**  
*Jewish world.* Pesach. First day of Passover.
- 2 April 1982**  
*Argentina, United Kingdom.* Argentina invades Falklands.
- 2 April 1986**  
*Greece.* Bomb aboard TWA Flight 840 killed four US citizens, including one infant.
- 4 April 1945**  
*Hungary.* Liberation Day.
- 4 April 1947**  
*Syria.* Founding of Ba'th Party.
- 4 April 1950**  
*NATO.* NATO established.
- 4 April 1960**  
*Senegal.* Independence Day.
- 4 April 1979**  
*Pakistan.* Ex-President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto executed; the terrorist group Al-Zulfikar, founded by his two sons, is named after him.
- 5 April 1976**  
*China.* Tiananmen riots in wake of Zhou Enlai's death.
- 5 April 1986**  
*West Germany.* Bomb at La Belle discotheque in West Berlin kills a US soldier and a Turkish woman, wounds 200 others. A second US serviceman later died of his wounds.

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6 April	<i>Thailand.</i> Chakri Day. Founding of Thai royal dynasty.
7 April 1916	<i>Ireland.</i> Beginning of insurrection that led to independence.
7 April 1963	<i>Yugoslavia.</i> Republic Day. Commemorates adoption of current constitution.
7 April 1976	<i>Libya.</i> Student revolution.
8 April 1947	<i>Iraq.</i> Founding of ruling Ba'th Party.
9 April	<i>Jewish world.</i> Last day of Passover.
10 April 1941	<i>Yugoslavia.</i> Proclamation of Croatian independence.
10 April 1973	<i>Israel, Lebanon.</i> Israeli raid on Beirut that killed several high-ranking Palestinian terrorists.
11 April	<i>Palestinians.</i> Founding of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).
11 April 1974	<i>Israel.</i> Attack by PFLP-GC on Qiryat Shemona leaves 18 dead, 16 wounded.
11 April 1979	<i>Uganda.</i> Liberation Day. Fall of Idi Amin.
12 April 1980	<i>Liberia.</i> National Redemption Day. Celebrates coup overthrowing Tolbert government.
13 April 1699	<i>India.</i> Guru Gobind Singh founds Sikhism as a militaristic religion.
13 April 1919	<i>India.</i> British troops fire on Indian civilians in Amritsar. Commemorated as "Jallian Wala Garden Massacre."
13 April 1975	<i>Lebanon.</i> Phalange militiamen attack bus, triggering Lebanese civil war.
13 April 1985	<i>Sudan.</i> President Nimeiri ousted in coup.
14 April	<i>Muslim world.</i> Approximate date beginning Ramadan, the month of fasting.
14 April 1849	<i>Hungary.</i> Independence Day.
14 April 1890	<i>Latin America.</i> Pan-American Day. First international conference of American states.
14 April 1967	<i>Togo.</i> Assumption of presidency by Gen. Gnassingbe Eyadema.
14 April 1974	<i>Niger.</i> Accession to power of President Kountche.
14 April 1986	<i>Libya.</i> US planes bomb Tripoli and Benghazi in retaliation for Libyan involvement in anti-US terrorism.

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15 April 1912 North Korea. Birthday of Kim Il-song.

15 April 1916 Ireland. Easter uprising.

15 April 1986 Sudan. US Embassy communicator wounded in Khartoum; [REDACTED] b1 b3

16 April 1980 Jerusalem, West Bank. Palestinian Prisoners' Day.

17 April 1946 Syria. Independence Day.

17 April 1961 Cuba. Air Defense Day. Commemorates Air Force success against Bay of Pigs invaders.

17 April 1975 Cambodia. Liberation Day. Khmer Rouge victory.

17 April 1984 Libya, United Kingdom. Libyan radicals fire on protesters outside People's Bureau in London, killing a policewoman and wounding 11 others; start of siege by British security forces.

17 April 1986 Lebanon. Bodies of American hostage Peter Kilburn and two British hostages discovered in Beirut.

United Kingdom. Palestinian Nezar Hindawi attempts to bomb El Al aircraft by placing device in Irish girl friend's luggage.

18 April 1949 Ireland. Inauguration of republic.

18 April 1978 Panama, United States. US ratification of Panama Canal Treaty.

18 April 1980 Zimbabwe. Independence Day.

18 April 1983 Lebanon. US Embassy bombed by Islamic Jihad; 63 persons killed.

18 April 1986 Turkey. Two Libyans arrested attempting grenade attack on US officers club in Ankara.

19 April 1960 Namibia. Founding of South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO).

South Korea. Unrest triggered by student uprising forced President Syngman Rhee to resign and leave country. Usually commemorated by student demonstrations.

19 April 1961 Cuba. Day of Victory at Playa Giron (Bay of Pigs).

19 April 1970 Colombia. Populist group National Popular Alliance (ANAPO) did poorly in national election.

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19 April 1971 *Sierra Leone*. Proclamation of republic.

19 April 1973 *Colombia*. Populist group ANAPO extremists founded 19th of April Movement (M-19).

20 April 1986 *Turkey*. Three Palestinians arrested targeting US airbase and US citizens near Adana.

21 April 1967 *Greece*. National Resistance Day. Anniversary of military coup.

24 April *Muslim world*. Ashura. Shia Muslims commemorate the death of Hussein with passion plays and self-flagellation. Sunni-Shia rivalries often flare.

24 April 1915 *Armenians*. National Day of Sorrow. Commemorates Turkish massacre.

24 April 1965 *Dominican Republic*. Beginning of civil war.

24 April 1970 *The Gambia*. Republic Day.

25 April 1945 *Italy*. Liberation Day.

25 April 1967 *Swaziland*. Kingdom constituted.

25 April 1974 *Portugal*. Revolution Day; Liberty Day. Celebrates military coup that overthrew rightist government and paved way for democratically elected government. Leftwing terrorist group Popular Forces of 25 April (FP-25) takes its name from this date.

25 April 1982 *Egypt, Israel*. Sinai Day. Commemorates Israeli withdrawal.

25 April 1986 *North Yemen*. US Embassy communicator wounded in Sanaa [REDACTED] b1  
b3

26 April *Israel*. Commemoration of the Holocaust.

26 April 1949 *Jordan*. Transjordan becomes Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

26 April 1964 *Tanzania*. United Republic of Tanzania formed through union of Republic of Tanganyika and People's Republic of Zanzibar.

27 April 1945 *Austria*. Second Republic established.

27 April 1960 *Togo*. Independence Day.

27 April 1961 *Sierra Leone*. Independence Day.


27 April 1978 *Afghanistan*. Conservative Daoud regime ousted by leftwing coup.

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<i>28 April 1937</i>	<i>Iraq. Birthday of Saddam Husayn.</i>
<i>28 April 1965</i>	<i>Dominican Republic. US military intervention.</i>
<i>28 April 1983</i>	<i>Colombia. Death of M-19 leader Jaime Bateman in plane crash.</i>
<i>29 April 1926</i>	<i>Japan. Emperor Hirohito's birthday.</i>
<i>29 April 1967</i>	<i>Colombia. Founding of People's Liberation Army (EPL).</i>
<i>29 April 1986</i>	<i>India. Sikh militants declare independent republic of Khalistan at Golden Temple in Amritsar; militants expelled from temple next day.</i>
<i>30 April 1975</i>	<i>Vietnam. North Vietnamese capture Saigon.</i>
<i>30 April 1980</i>	<i>United Kingdom. Iranian Embassy seized by radicals; hostages eventually rescued by British Special Air Service team.</i>
<i>30 April 1981</i>	<i>Guatemala. Bombing of storage tank of US oil company in Guatemala City by the 31 January Popular Front (FP-31).</i>
<i>30 April 1982</i>	<i>Guatemala. Bombing of US fast-food restaurant in Guatemala City by the FP-31.</i>

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**Chronology of Terrorism—1987-88** b3

*Below are described noteworthy foreign and international events involving terrorists, or the use of terrorist tactics, which have occurred or come to light since our last issue. In some cases, the perpetrators and their motivations may not be known. Events and developments that have already been described elsewhere in this publication are not included.* b3

**14 December**

**India:** Unidentified gunmen kill two senior police officials as they jog at a sports complex. b1, b3  
Babbar Khalsa Sikh terrorists are believed responsible.

**19 December**

[REDACTED] b1, b3

**27 December**

**India:** Police release eight Naxalite prisoners in exchange for six government personnel. The officials were ambushed and taken hostage the previous weekend. b3

**1 January**

**Chile:** Explosion at power pylon on San Cristobal hill causes partial blackout in Santiago. No one claimed responsibility for the bombing. b3

**4 January**

**Chile:** Bomb explodes in street near infantry school in San Bernardo, causing minor damage but no casualties. No group claimed responsibility for the bombing. b3

**5 January**

**United Kingdom:** Iraqi businessman is poisoned while dining with other Iraqi nationals. British security officials are investigating the theory that the killing was committed by the Iraqi Government for political reasons. b3

**8 January**

**Chile:** Military judge sentences four Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) extremists to life in prison. They were found guilty of killing a policeman during a 1980 attack at a monument in Santiago. b3

**Philippines:** New People's Army (NPA) members attack jeep near one of their safehouses in Orani, Bataan, and kill policeman. b1, b3  
[REDACTED]

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9 January

*Northern Ireland: Large car bomb explodes in downtown Belfast. The Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA) took responsibility for the bombing in calls giving police a warning of the blast.*

b3

10 January

*El Salvador: Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) terrorists bomb Ahuachapan geothermal plant on two consecutive days, causing no injuries in either incident.*

b1, b3

11 January

*Chile: Explosion on subway in Santiago causes major damage but no casualties. Unknown persons planted a bomb on a train, and it exploded inside the tunnel at San Pablo station.*

b3

*Zimbabwe: Car bomb explodes in suburb of Bulawayo at house occupied by members of the African National Congress (ANC), killing one person and injuring several others. Zimbabwean officials believe the victims were targeted by South African agents.*

b3

13 January

*Philippines: NPA assassination squad kills three off-duty policemen outside store in Porac, Pampanga. The victims were killed in retaliation for abuses allegedly inflicted on local residents.*

b3

14 January

*Lebanon: Unidentified gunmen assassinate military official of the Islamic Unification Movement in Sidon. No one has claimed responsibility.*

b3

*Philippines: French Ambassador is target of assassination attempt as he leaves French Embassy in Manila. The Ambassador, riding in his bulletproof car, was not hurt. No motive has been established, and no group has claimed responsibility.*

b3

*Sudan: Explosions kill two persons and seriously injure 10 others in Al-Qurquf on the eastern border. Two mines exploded, several hours apart, near civilian vehicles in the same area of the town. There was no claim of responsibility.*

b3

15 January

*Argentina: Bomb explodes at Mormon church in Avellaneda, causing minor damage but no casualties. There was no claim of responsibility.*

b3

*Northern Ireland: Gunmen wound member of Ulster Defense Regiment (UDR) outside his home in County Tyrone. The man, who died of his wounds the following day, was the first fatality in Northern Ireland from sectarian violence in 1988.*

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16 January

*India: Unidentified gunmen shoot and kill a farmer, his wife, and three sons in Gurdaspur in Punjab. One son was a suspected terrorist. No one has claimed responsibility.* b3

*India: Police find three bullet-riddled bodies in Jandiala village, Amritsar. No one has claimed responsibility for the incident.* b3

*Northern Ireland: Two men die in shooting incidents. A member of the UDR was shot while walking with his girl friend, and a Catholic man was murdered in his home by several attackers. No groups took credit for the murders, the second and third in Ulster in 1988.* b3

*Spain: Bomb explodes at Citroen dealership in Logrono, causing damage but no casualties. Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA) claimed responsibility in a communique charging French Government and business interests with exploitation of the Spanish economy.* b3

17 January

*India: Security forces arrest seven Sikh terrorists in Amritsar, including one with a reward of 30,000 rupees (about \$2,500) for his capture.* b3

*Philippines: Crude bomb explodes in a barbershop outside Subic Bay Naval Base, scattering debris but causing no casualties. Authorities have no suspects but believe the bombing was intended to disrupt local elections.* b3

18 January

*Japan: Unknown assailants launch five homemade rockets in the vicinity of Narita airport, causing no damage or casualties.* b1  
b3

19 January

*Chile: Bomb explodes at home of German immigrants. There were no reported injuries and no claims of responsibility.* b3

*Northern Ireland: PIRA claims responsibility for murder of man it asserted was a police informer. According to the group, the victim was a former member of PIRA.* b3

20 January

*India: Security forces kill two suspected terrorists during an encounter in Amritsar. The authorities also captured weapons and ammunition.* b3

21 January

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*France: Two bombs explode in government offices in Brittany. The Breton Revolutionary Army claimed responsibility for the bombings, saying its motivation was opposition to French Government attempts to eradicate the Celtic language. There were no injuries.* b3

*Philippines: Muslim guerrillas stop minibus in Basilan and kidnap 10 Filipino Christians.* b3

22 January

*India: Two armed assailants kill vice president of Bharatiya Janata Party section in Ludhiana, Punjab. The attackers fled on motor scooters, and no group has claimed responsibility for the incident.* b3

*India: Six unidentified assailants fire indiscriminately on crowd in park in Sangrur, killing 10 persons and seriously wounding one. Two persons were killed and two injured in separate shooting incidents in Amritsar and Gurdaspur in Punjab. No one has claimed responsibility. (U)*

23 January

*France: Corsican separatists bomb 10 vacant holiday villas in Ajaccio and leave signed tracts in the wreckage. Although there were no injuries, eight of the homes were totally destroyed. Authorities view the bombings as a resurgence of the separatist campaign to force property owners from the mainland to quit Corsica.* b1 b3

*India: Armed rebels shoot and kill farmer in Manochahal village, Amritsar. No group has claimed responsibility.* b3 b3

*Mozambique: Members of the National Resistance Movement attack Gulja in southern Mozambique. Government authorities claim the rebels killed about 70 persons and set fire to several buildings in the town, including a school, hospital, and post office.* b3

*Sri Lanka: Nine Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) members surrender to the Indian Peacekeeping Force in Jaffna. The Indian forces also seized explosives and ammunition at several locations in the Jaffna Peninsula.* b3

24 January

*Chile: Bomb explodes at municipal parking lot in Valparaiso, destroying at least 10 vehicles. Two unidentified men may have sprayed the vehicles with a flammable liquid before placing the bomb. There were no injuries, and no group has claimed responsibility.* b3

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25 January

*India: Extremists kill five members of a family in Kalachara village, Tripura district. The Tripura National Volunteers, a separatist group, is suspected.* b3

*Northern Ireland: Director of construction firm doing work for security forces in Northern Ireland is killed by two gunmen while working at his desk. No group claimed responsibility, but PIRA has targeted companies providing services to the police and Army in Ulster.* b3

26 January

*Chile: Explosion in Santiago kills Maj. Julio Benimeli, head of police special operations unit, and wounds two other policemen. The MIR has claimed responsibility for the bombing.* b3

*France: Police arrest six suspected Basque separatists, including a 70-year-old man and his wife, during raids near the border. At least four of the suspects are to be flown to Paris for questioning on Basque attacks in France. A teacher in a Basque school in Bayonne was arrested in a related raid.* b3

*Northern Ireland: One policeman is killed and two wounded in grenade attack on their vehicle while patrolling in Belfast. Two civilians, including a 5-year-old girl, also were wounded in the attack, which took place near a children's hospital. PIRA has claimed responsibility for killing most of the 252 policemen who have died in Northern Ireland since the resurgence of violence in 1969.* b3

*Northern Ireland: Three policemen and three civilians are wounded in car bomb attack outside Belfast police station. A telephone caller claiming to represent PIRA gave police a 40-minute warning of the blast.* b3

27 January

*Chile: Four bombs explode in Concepcion, causing serious damage but no injuries. Members of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front are suspected in the incidents.* b3

28 January

*Chile: Bombings occur in towns of Concepcion, Talcahuano, Lota, and Chillan. There were no reported casualties, and no group has claimed responsibility.* b3

29 January

*France: Two Basques suspected of involvement in ETA are expelled from France to Spain. The two were arrested by border police at Saint Jean de Luz. One is suspected of being a member of the Goycerri Commando, formerly active around San Sebastian.* b3

31 January

*West Bank: Unknown assailants firebomb car with Jewish settler in it, leaving victim in critical condition.* b3

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1 February

*France: Three bombs directed at telecommunications targets in Ajaccio explode and cause damage but no casualties.* Two explosions occurred at the offices and the other at the apartment of a telecommunications official. National Front for the Liberation of Corsica (FLNC) pamphlets were found near the regional telecommunications headquarters, which received considerable damage. b3

*Lebanon: Al-Sadr Brigades organization claims kidnapping of Libyan national in Beirut.* In a telephone call to a foreign news agency, a spokesman for the group accused the kidnap victim of working for Libyan intelligence. b3

3 February

*France: Police arrest six suspected Basque separatists in three raids near border towns.* One was identified as Murua Exave (Kung-Fu), whom police believe to have been an ETA-M leader since 1975. Another of those arrested was found in the home of an ETA member who had been expelled from France to Ecuador. b3

4 February

*Iraq: Iraqi mujahedin attempt to assassinate Interior Minister Samir al-Shaykhli.* The minister escaped harm, but his brother was killed. b3



b1  
b3

5 February

*Lebanon: Bomb explodes in Al-Mina district of Tripoli in building housing Syrian Intelligence office and clinic belonging to pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party.* The explosion caused property damage in nearby areas, but no information was available on casualties. The "Khalil Akkawi Group of the Nine February Movement" has claimed responsibility for the explosion. b3

6 February

*Lebanon: Car bomb is defused by explosives expert in East Beirut.* Rigged with 40 kilograms of explosives, the car was parked near the Air France airline offices. An investigation is underway to determine whether the boobytrapped car is the one used by the assassins of a French intelligence officer on 2 February. b3

*Lebanon: Amal security official is killed in car bomb explosion in West Beirut.* The official's boobytrapped car detonated in front of his house in the Harat Hurayk area. No group has claimed responsibility. b3

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